Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SY-05

FBIE-00 /062 W

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R 151731Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2404

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: CFED

SUBJECT: FBI JURISDICTION WITHIN THE CARIBBEAN

1. AT THE MOMENT THE FBI FIELD OFFICE IN SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO, HAS JURISDICTION OVER JAMAICA AND AGENTS FROM THAT OFFICE DO VISIT FROM TIME TO TIME TO MAKE CONTACT WITH THE EMBASSY AND THEIR OPPOSITES IN THE JAMAICAN SECURITY FORCES. EXPERIENCE WITH THESE VISITS WOULD INDICATE THAT THE SAN JUAN FIELD OFFICE FREQUENTLY IS UNINFORMED ON SIGNIFICANT ISSUES OR EVENTS HERE WHICH CONCERN OUR RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE JAMAICAN GOVERNMENT AND RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN THE JAMAICAN GOVERNMENT AND VARIOUS U.S. LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES IN MIAMI. THERE APPEARS TO BE LITTLE DOUBT THAT THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE FBI IN JAMAICA IS HAMPERED BY PRESENT JURISDICTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS. PERHAPS MORE SERIOUSLY, THERE IS THE FISK OF THE FBI SAN JUAN OFFICE ENTANGLING ITSELF IN POLITICALLY SENSITIVE AREAS THROUGH INADEQUATE BACKGROUND INFO OR LIAISON WITH OTHER CONCERNED US AGENCIES.

2. GIVEN THE FACT THAT OTHER KEY LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES DEALING WITH JAMAICA ARE HEADQUARTERED IN MIAMI (E.G. DEA, U.S. CUSTOMS, AND COAST GUARD) IT WOULD APPEAR TO US THAT FOR LIAISON AND LAW ENFORCE-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MENT COORDINATION PURPOSES, THE FRI WOULD BE WELL

ADVISED TO CONSIDER SHIFTINGJURISDICTION OVER JAMAICA FROM SAN JUAN TO ITS REGIONAL OFFICE IN MIAMI. SUCH A TRANSFER WOULD ALSO BE FAR MORE CONVENIENT WITH RESPECT TO AIR TRANSPORTATION LINKS. THE DEPARTMENT IS REQUESTED TO TAKE THE FOREGOING UP WITH THE FBI AT AN EARLY DATE.

3. THE FOREGOING IS NOT INTENDED TO REFLECT NEGATIVELY IN ANY WAY ON THE FBI AGENTS FROM SAN JUAN WHO AT ALL TIMES HAVE BEEN MOST COOPERATIVE AND HELPFUL TO THE EXTENT CIRCUMSTANCES PERMITTED. GERARD

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Message Attributes

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